COL CLASSIFICATION Approved For

CD NO.

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COUNTRY

SUBJECT

Colombia

Clandestine Purchases of Platinum in Colombia

2 Feb 1949 DATE DISTR.

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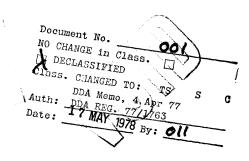
SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1X6

1. Platinum purchases in the platinum-producing areas of Colombia showed a marked increase during the month of December 1943. There has also been a notable increase in the selling price over the price quoted on world markets. Platinum is selling at 290 peacs an ounce for a grade 82 per cent and 83 per cent pure, or approximately 103.00 U.S. using black parket exchange figures. The quoted world price during this period was 695.00 U.S. for 87 per cent pure nlatinum.

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- the buying of mlatinum has become so competitive that he has been unable to our chase any, despite the fact that he lot it be known that he was interested in purchasing fifty pounds with the price a secondary matter.
- 3. It was ascertained in Condoto that Juan Banna was purchasing platinum for Farid Cajale in Tabdo and a store owner by the name of Mejia was making extensive purchases for Rito Florez, a merchant in Buenaventura. Julius Winkler and Carlos Grimberg have been making personal purchases. The latter, who was active in buying platinum in 1943, renewed his illicit operations during January 1949. From all indications Crimberg is buying the greatest quantities of platinum.



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